

SECTION 26 05 41
UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 DESCRIPTION

- A. This section specifies the furnishing, installation and connection of handholes and ducts to form a complete underground raceway system.
- B. "Duct" and "conduit", and "rigid metal conduit" and "rigid steel conduit" are used interchangeably in this specification and have the same meaning.

1.2 RELATED WORK

- A. Section 31 20 11, EARTH MOVING (SHORT FORM): Trenching, backfill and compaction.
- B. Section 07 92 00, JOINT SEALANTS: Sealing of conduit penetrations.
- D. Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS: General electrical requirements and items that are common to more than one section of Division 26.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

- A. Submit in accordance with Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.
- B. Shop Drawings:
 - 1. Sufficient information, clearly presented, shall be included to determine compliance with drawings and specifications.
 - 2. Include handholes, duct materials, and hardware. Proposed deviations from details on the drawings shall be clearly marked on the submittals.
 - 3. If necessary to locate ducts or handholes at locations other than shown on the drawings, show the proposed locations accurately on scaled site drawings, and submit four copies to the COTR/Resident Engineer for approval prior to construction.
- C. Certifications: Two weeks prior to final inspection, submit four copies of the following to the COTR/Resident Engineer:
 - 1. Certification that the materials are in accordance with the drawings and specifications.
 - 2. Certification, by the Contractor, that the complete installation has been properly installed and tested.

1.4 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS

Publications listed below (including amendments, addenda, revisions, supplements, and errata) form a part of this specification to the

extent referenced. Publications are referenced in the text by the basic designation only.

- A. American Concrete Institute (ACI):
Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete
318/318M-2005.....Building Code Requirements for Structural
Concrete & Commentary
SP-66-04.....ACI Detailing Manual
- B. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):
C478/C478M 2009(b).....Standard Specification for Precast Reinforced
Concrete Manhole Sections
C990 REV A 2008Standard Specification for joints concrete
pipe, Manholes and Precast Box using performed
flexible Joint sealants.
- C. Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE):
C2-2002National Electrical Safety Code
- D. National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA):
RNI 2005.....Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Externally Coated
Galvanized Rigid Steel Conduit and Intermediate
Metal Conduit
TC 2 2003.....Electrical Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Tubing And
Conduit
TC 3-2004.....PVC Fittings for Use With Rigid PVC Conduit And
Tubing
TC 6 & 8 2003.....PVC Plastic Utilities Duct For Underground
Installations
TC 9-2004.....Fittings For PVC Plastic Utilities Duct For
Underground Installation
- E. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):
70 2008.....National Electrical Code (NEC)
- F. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL):
6-2007.....Electrical Rigid Metal Conduit-Steel
467-2007.....Standard for Grounding and Bonding Equipment
651-2005.....Standard for Schedule 40 and 80 Rigid PVC
Conduit and Fittings
651A-2000.....Type EB and A Rigid PVC Conduit and HDPE
Conduit, (RTRC)
651B-2007.....Continuous Length HDPE Conduit
- G. U.S. General Services Administration (GSA):

SS-S-210A-1981.....Sealing Compound, Preformed Plastic for
Expansion joints And Pipe Joints

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 FIBERGLASS HANDHOLES

- A. Shall be matched die molded of dark green fiberglass with approximate dimensions of 810 mm (32 inches) high, top surface of 1090 by 950 mm (43 by 37½ inches), and top opening of 810 by 660 mm (32 by 26 inches). When buried, the unit shall be capable of supporting an ultimate downward load of 2955 kg (6500 pounds) distributed over a 150 by 150 mm (6 by 6 inch) area imposed anywhere on the cover surface. Unit shall have precut 150 by 150 mm (6 by 6 inches) cable entrance at the center bottom of each side. A fiberglass weatherproof cover with nonskid surface shall be provided for each handhole. Covers shall be capable of being locked into position.

2.2 DUCTS

- A. Number and sizes shall be as shown on drawings.
- B. Ducts (concrete encased):
1. Plastic Duct:
 - a. UL 651 and 651A Schedule 40 PVC.
 - b. Duct shall be suitable for use with 90 degree C rated conductors.
 2. Conduit Spacers: Prefabricated plastic.
- C. Ducts (direct burial):
1. Plastic duct:
 - a. NEMA TC2 and TC3
 - b. UL 651, 651A and 651B, Schedule 40 PVC.
 - c. Duct shall be suitable for use with 75 degree C rated conductors.
 2. Rigid metal conduit, PVC-coated: UL6 and NEMA RN1 galvanized rigid steel, threaded type, coated with PVC sheath bonded to the galvanized exterior surface, nominal 1 mm (0.040 inch) thick.

2.3 GROUNDING

- A. Ground Wire: Stranded bare copper 16 mm² (6 AWG) minimum.

2.4 WARNING TAPE:

- A. Standard 4-mil polyethylene 76 mm (3 inch) wide tape, non-detectable type, red with black letters, imprinted with "CAUTION BURIED ELECTRIC CABLE BELOW".

2.5 PULL ROPE:

- A. Plastic with 890N (200 pound) minimum tensile strength.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 HANDHOLE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION

A. General Requirements:

1. Locate handholes at the approximate locations shown on the drawings with due consideration given to the location of other utilities, grades, and paving.

B. Access for Handholes: Make the top of frames and covers flush with finished grade.

3.2 TRENCHING

A. Refer to Section 31 20 00, EARTH MOVING for trenching back-filling, and compaction.

B. Work with extreme care near existing ducts, conduits, cables, and other utilities to avoid damaging them.

C. Cut the trenches neatly and uniformly.

D. For Concrete Encased Ducts:

1. After excavation of the trench, stakes shall be driven in the bottom of the trench at 1200 mm (4 foot) intervals to establish the grade and route of the duct bank.
2. Pitch the trenches uniformly towards manholes or both ways from high points between manholes for the required duct line drainage. Avoid pitching the ducts towards buildings wherever possible.
3. The walls of the trench may be used to form the side walls of the duct bank provided that the soil is self-supporting and that concrete envelope can be poured without soil inclusions. Forms are required where the soil is not self-supporting.
4. After the concrete encased duct has sufficiently cured, the trench shall be backfilled to grade with earth, with appropriate warning tape attached.

E. Conduits to be installed under existing paved areas, roads, and railroad tracks that are not to be disturbed shall be jacked into place. Conduits shall be PVC-coated rigid metal.

3.3 DUCT INSTALLATION

A. General Requirements:

1. Ducts shall be in accordance with the NEC and IEEE C2, as shown on the drawings, and as specified.
2. Slope ducts to drain towards handholes, and away from building and equipment entrances. Pitch not less than 100 mm (4 inches) in 30 M (100 feet).

3. Underground conduit stub-ups and sweeps to equipment inside of buildings shall be PVC-coated galvanized rigid steel, and shall extend a minimum of 1500 mm (5 feet) outside of building foundation.
4. Stub-ups, sweeps, and risers to equipment mounted on outdoor concrete slabs shall be PVC-coated galvanized rigid steel, and shall extend a minimum of 1500 mm (5 feet) away from edge of slab.
5. Install insulated grounding bushings on the terminations.
6. PVC-coated rigid steel conduits shall be coupled to the ducts with suitable adapters, and the whole encased with 75 mm (3 inches) of concrete.
7. PVC coated rigid steel conduit turns of direction for all duct lines shall have minimum 1200 mm (4 feet) radius in the horizontal and vertical directions. PVC conduit sweeps for all duct lines shall have a minimum 12000 mm (40 feet) radius in the horizontal and 1200 mm (4 feet) in the vertical directions. Where a 12000 mm (40 feet) radius is not possible, horizontal turns of direction shall be rigid steel.
8. All multiple conduit runs shall have conduit spacers. Spacers shall securely support and maintain uniform spacing of the duct assembly a minimum of 75 mm (3 inches) above bottom of trench during the concrete pour. Spacer spacing shall not exceed 1500 mm (5 feet).
9. Duct lines shall be installed no less than 300 mm (12 inches) from other utility systems, such as water, sewer, and chilled water.
10. Clearances between individual ducts:
 - a. For like services, not less than 75 mm (3 inches).
 - b. For power and signal services, not less than 150 mm (6 inches).
 - c. Provide plastic spacers to maintain clearances.
 - d. Provide nonferrous tie wires to prevent displacement of the ducts during pouring of concrete. Tie wires shall not act as substitute for spacers.
11. Duct lines shall terminate as shown on the drawings. All ducts shall be fitted with end bells.
12. Couple the ducts with proper couplings. Stagger couplings in rows and layers to insure maximum strength and rigidity of the duct bank.
13. Keep ducts clean of earth, sand, or gravel during construction, and seal with tapered plugs upon completion of each portion of the work.

14. Duct Bank Markers:

- a. Duct bank markers, where required, shall be located at the ends of duct banks except at handholes at approximately every 60 meter (200 feet) along the duct run and at each change in direction of the duct run. Markers shall be placed 600 mm (2 feet) to the right of the duct bank, facing the longitudinal axis of the run in the direction of the electrical load.
- b. The letter "D" with two arrows shall be impressed or cast on top of the marker. One arrow shall be located below the letter and shall point toward the ducts. Second arrow shall be located adjacent to the letter and shall point in a direction parallel to the ducts. The letter and arrow adjacent to it shall each be approximately 75 mm (2 inches) long. The letter and arrows shall be V-shaped, and shall have a width of stroke at least 6 mm (1/4 inch) at the top and a depth of 6 mm (1/4 inch).
- c. In paved areas, the top of the duct markers shall be flush with the finished surface of the paving.
- d. Where the duct bank changes direction, the arrow located adjacent to the letter shall be cast or impressed with an angle in the arrow the same as the angular change of the duct bank.

C. Direct Burial Duct and Conduits:

1. Install direct burial ducts and conduits only where shown on the drawings. Provide direct burial ducts only for low voltage systems.
2. Join and terminate ducts and conduits with fittings recommended by conduit manufacturer.
3. Direct burial ducts and conduits are prohibited under railroad tracks.
4. Tops of ducts and conduits shall be:
 - a. Not less than 600 mm (24 inches) and not less than shown on the drawings, below finished grade.
 - b. Not less than 750 mm (30 inches) and not less than shown on the drawings, below roads and other paved surfaces.
5. Do not kink the ducts or conduits.

D. Concrete-Encased and Direct Burial Duct and Conduit Identification:

Place continuous strip of warning tape approximately 300 mm (12 inches) above ducts or conduits before backfilling trenches. Warning tape shall be preprinted with proper identification.

- E. Spare Ducts and Conduits: Where spare ducts are shown, they shall have a nylon pull rope installed. They shall be capped at each end and labeled as to location of the other end.
- F. Duct and Conduit Cleaning:
1. Upon completion of the duct bank installation or installation of direct buried ducts, a standard flexible mandrel shall be pulled through each duct to loosen particles of earth, sand, or foreign material left in the line. The mandrel shall be not less than 3600 mm (12 inches) long, and shall have a diameter not less than 13 mm (1/2 inch) less than the inside diameter of the duct. A brush with stiff bristles shall then be pulled through each duct to remove the loosened particles. The diameter of the brush shall be the same as, or slightly larger than the diameter of the duct.
 2. Mandrel pulls shall be witnessed by the COTR/Resident Engineer.
- G. Duct and Conduit Sealing: Seal the ducts and conduits at building entrances, and at outdoor terminations for equipment, with a suitable non-hardening compound to prevent the entrance of moisture and gases.
- H. Connections to Existing Manholes: For duct bank connections to existing structures, break the structure wall out to the dimensions required and preserve steel in the structure wall. Cut steel and extend into the duct bank envelope. Chip the perimeter surface of the duct bank opening to form a key or flared surface, providing a positive connection with the duct bank envelope.
- I. Connections to Existing Ducts: Where connections to existing duct banks are indicated, excavate around the duct banks as necessary. Cut off the duct banks and remove loose concrete from the conduits before installing new concrete-encased ducts. Provide a reinforced concrete collar, poured monolithically with the new duct bank, to take the shear at the joint of the duct banks.
- J. Partially Completed Duct Banks: During construction wherever a construction joint is necessary in a duct bank, prevent debris such as mud and dirt from entering ducts by providing suitable conduit plugs. Fit concrete envelope of a partially completed duct bank with reinforcing steel extending a minimum of 600 mm (2 feet) back into the envelope and a minimum of 600 mm (2 feet) beyond the end of the envelope. Provide one No. 4 bar in each corner, 75 mm (3 inches) from the edge of the envelope. Secure corner bars with two No. 3 ties,

spaced approximately 300 mm (1 foot) apart. Restrain reinforcing assembly from moving during pouring of concrete.

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